

Message Text

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SUBJ: JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT END OF LIBYAN PRIME

MINISTER'S VISIT

REFS: BELGRADE A-88; BELGRADE 1569

SUMMARY: JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER ABDUL JALLOUD'S FOUR-DAY VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA STRESSED YUGOSLAV-LIBYAN AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL ISSUES BUT WAS VAGUE ON SPECIFICS OF PROGRESS IN YUGOSLAV-LIBYAN BILATERAL COOPERATION.

1. COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER FOUR-DAY VISIT OF LIBYAN PRIME MINISTER ABDUL JALLOUD REPEATS STANDARD THIRD WORLD POSITIONS ON ROLE OF NON-ALIGNED IN WORLD AFFAIRS, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION AND MIDDLE EAST. IN DISCUSSING INDO-CHINA, COMMUNIQUE APPLAUDS VICTORIES OF VIETNAMESE AND KHMER PEOPLES AND CALL "LIBERATION OF PHNOM PENH AN IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION TO COMMON STRUGGLE OF NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AND OTHER PROGRESSIVE FORCES AGAINST AGGRESSION AND FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

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2. ACCORDING TO TANJUG, JALLOUD AND YUGOSLAV PRIME

MINISTER BIJEDIC HELD DISCUSSIONS ON YUGOSLAV-LIBYAN ECONOMIC RELATION; ADDITIONALLY, LIBYAN MINISTER OF ECONOMY, BUBAKER ALI SERIF, AND YUGOSLAV CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, STOJAN ANDOV, REPORTEDLY HELD "INTENSIVE" SEPARATE TALKS ON BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. COMMUNIQUE EXPRESSED PLEASURE THAT YUGOSLAV-LIBYAN COOPERATION WAS DEVELOPING FAVORABLY AND SAID FURTHER LONG-TERM COOPERATION, ON BASIS OF EXISTING AGREEMENTS, WAS ENVISAGED IN OIL, AGRICULTURE, CIVIL ENGINEERING, INVESTMENT AFFAIRS, TRADE, AND SCIENTIFIC/TECHNICAL COOPERATION. SPECIAL MENTION WAS MADE OF ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT ENTERPRISES IN BOTH COUNTRIES AND OF JOINT EFFORTS IN MARKETS OF OTHER LDCS. COMMUNIQUE DID NOT REFER TO SPECIFIC PROGRESS ON ANY OF OUTSTANDING ECONOMIC ISSUES BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES (REFAIR).

3. COMMENT: IT IS INTERESTING THAT THUS FAR JALLOU'S VISIT HAS NOT ENGENDERED ANNOUNCEMENT OF FURTHER PROGRESS IN ANY OF NUMEROUS ON-GOING PROJECTS FOR BILATERAL COOPERATION, (YUGOSLAV OIL PIPELINE, KOPER REFINERY, JOINT BANK, ETC., SEE REFAIR). TANJUG REPORTED EARLIER THAT BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS WERE THE MAJOR PURPOSE OF JALLOU'S VISIT AND THIS WAS SUBSEQUENTLY CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY BY SENIOR YUGOSLAV OFFICIAL. YUGOSLAV CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN LDCS; AND FINANCIAL AND DEVELOPMENT CREDITS FROM LIBYA, KUWAIT, IRAQ, AND OTHER OIL PRODUCERS, ARE IMPORTANT IF YUGOSLAVIA IS TO PREVENT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FROM BECOMING CONSTAINT ON DEVELOPMENT PLANS. IT HAD APPEARED YUGOSLAVIA-LIBYA COOPERATION WAS DEVELOPING ON A BROAD FRONT AND PROGRESS ON SEVERAL BILATERAL ISSUES HAD BEEN EXPECTED IN MARCH/MAY PERIOD, INCLUDING SIGNING OF AGREEMENT FOR LIBYAN CREDIT FOR YUGOSLAV OIL PIPELINE AND ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT BANK TO FINANCE PROJECTS IN LIBYA, YUGOSLAVIA AND THIRD COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, ASIDE FROM CONTRACT SIGNED ON MARCH 31 FOR SALE OF \$45 MILLION OF MEAT (REFTEL) NO SIGNINGS HAVE YET OCCURED. EMBASSY IS SEEKING APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS TO DISCUSS JALLOU'S VISIT AND STATUS OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. MILLER

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